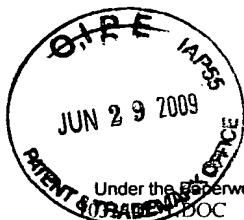


RCE/ITW



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PTO/SB/30 (06-09)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	10/663,493-Conf. #2440
	Filing Date	September 16, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Joseph P. Errico
	Art Unit	3738
	Examiner Name	B. E. Pellegrino
	Attorney Docket Number	SPINE 3.0-437 CPCPCPCPCPCP I CON I

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

- Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

 - ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - ☐ Other _____
 - ☒ Enclosed
 - ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - ☐ Other _____
- Miscellaneous**

 - ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
 - ☐ Other _____
- Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

 - ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any Overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 12-1095.
 - ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 - ☐ Other _____
 - ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
 - ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Signature		Date	June 23, 2009
Name (Print/Type)	William A. Di Bianca	Registration No.	58,653

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS-RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: June 23, 2009

Signature: (William A. Di Bianca)